



American Legion Post 201

Telephone: 770-475-9023

americanlegionalpharetta@gmail.com

www.legion201.org

Thursday, Aug. 21, 2025

~~~~~

### **Kudos and Big Thank You To Alpharetta Rotary Club**

With appreciation for the leadership of Alpharetta Rotary Club member Donna Murphy, who is the club's liaison with Post 201, and Finance Officer Ralph Jordan, the Post's liaison with the Club who is also a Rotarian, members of the Post 201 Family were treated to an outstanding Bar-B-Que meal with all the trimmings prior to both the Post's and the Auxiliary's membership meetings Tuesday evening. *(A note for the no-shows: this is one not to be overlooked next time!)*

Rotary volunteers who helped make the evening dinner, as well as the 5 p.m. meet-and-greet in the Clubroom (where there were also some tasty hors d'oeuvres) happen were: Mickey Rogers (Bar-B-Que pit master), William Perkins, Rebecca Douglas, Mark Broyles, Michele Curtis, Sharath Vasanadu, Peg Hussing, Wayne Robinson, Ron Cox, Brian Cueny, Michelle Miralles, Paul Slavik, Jill Bernard, Joseph Yi, Lauri Young, Gail LaFleche, Michele Curtis, Nicole & Scott Doll, Sue McCormick, John & Karen Hipes, Darden Couch, Rob Johns, Chuck Martin, Fatima Johnson, Glenda Lalljee, and Lisa Shippel.

With a nod of credit to St. Augustine of Hippo, as well as The Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer, the Rotarians who were at the Post Tuesday evening certainly provided an "outward and visible sign" to the Post 201 Family of the Rotarian principle: "Service Above Self".

~~~

**Post 201 Remembers
Kabul 13 with Crosses
Placed at Marquee Sign**

Post 201 has placed 13 crosses on the hill at the intersection of Wills Road and Old Milton Parkway/Rucker Road to mark the fourth anniversary of the Aug. 26, 2021 death of 13 U.S. Service members and numerous Afghan civilians.

The attack, carried out by a lone ISIS-K suicide bomber at Abbey Gate during the chaotic evacuation efforts, stands as a devastating reminder of the human cost of the withdrawal from Afghanistan.

At the time, the U.S. was engaged in a massive evacuation effort at Hamid Karzai International Airport when the attack occurred. The 13 U.S. service members killed included 11 Marines, a Navy corpsman, and an Army soldier. The bomber used an explosive device packed with ball bearings which also killed at least 170 Afghan civilians in addition to the American service members.

A supplemental review of the initial investigation, ordered by U.S. Army Central Command in September 2023, confirmed a single ISIS-K suicide bomber and reaffirmed the initial findings that the attack could not have been preventable at the tactical level.

To this day families of the fallen service members continue to express frustration and demand accountability regarding the handling of the withdrawal. This year's fourth anniversary also serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by those who served in Afghanistan during the period of Oct. 7, 2001 to Aug. 30, 2021. It also highlights the lasting impact of the attack as well as the ongoing debate surrounding the withdrawal itself.

The 13 U.S. service members who died in Abbey Gate attack were:

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David L. Espinoza;
Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole L. Gee;
Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin Taylor Hoover;
Army Staff Sgt. Ryan Christian Knauss;
Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez;
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee J. McCollum;
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan R. Merola;
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem M. Nikoui;
Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan W. Page;
Marine Corps Sgt. Johanny Rosario;
Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto A. Sanchez;
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared M. Schmitz; and
Navy Petty Officer Third Class Maxton W. Soviak.

~ ~ ~

~ Links to News Notes of Interest to Vets ~

[Watchdog Finds 50% Increase in VA Medical Center Jobs with 'Severe' Shortages](#)

[Congress Looks to Ease Restrictions on Veterans' Use of Non-VA Clinics and Hospitals](#)

[Virginia Sues VA over Education Benefits](#)

[Navy Retiring Last of its Storied Cruisers. To Vets, They Were 'the Pinnacle of Naval Power'](#)

~ ~ ~

Upcoming Post 201, Other Veteran Related Activities

Every Sunday at 7 p.m. - - Karaoke in the Clubroom/Bar.

Lots of Laughs, Good Times, and even Greater People.

Libations at a much better price than downtown!

9-Ball Pool Tournament, 2 p.m.

Every 3rd Sunday in the Clubroom/Bar

**VIEW FEATURED
POST EVENTS**

Thursday, Aug. 21, 6 p.m. First 2025 Cruz-In Planning Meeting. Interested volunteers please attend. If you cannot make it but want to participate, email Tommy Youngblood at youngbloodtom@att.net.

Saturday, Aug. 23, 9 a.m. Kabul 13 Ceremony. The Johns Creek Veterans Association and the St Brigid Knights of Columbus will hold a ceremony marking the 4th Anniversary of the death of 13 military personnel at the Gates of Kabul. It will take place at the Afghan War Plaza in Veterans Memorial Walk, Newtown Park, 3125 Old Alabama Rd, Johns Creek. [Click here](#) for more information.

Saturday, Aug. 23, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. SAL Spaghetti Dinner. The SAL will be preparing and selling Spaghetti Dinner Boxes (at \$15 per box). The meal includes spaghetti, meat sauce, meatballs, salad, and garlic bread. No word from the SAL yet on whether a signup sheet will be posted in advance, or if they’re just going to be ready to dish-it-out to all who show up and order it that evening.

Sunday, Aug. 24, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom.

Friday, Aug. 29, Club 201 Dance Retro Night. Dance Lessons start at 7:30 p.m. Open Dance at 8:30 p.m. [Click here](#) for more details. \$12 per person cash or credit.

Monday, Sept. 1, Labor Day. Post Clubroom/Bar opens at 1 p.m. for Post 201 Family-focused activities. Complimentary Bar-B-Que buffet starts in 3 p.m. time and continues until food runs out. Watch for Labor Day drink specials to be posted in the Bar.

Thursday, Sept. 4, 8 p.m. to 5 p.m. Lifeline Screening at Post. Get screened for stroke and cardiovascular disease risks. Special screening package for \$159. Includes: Carotid Artery Disease Screening, Atrial Fibrillation Screening, Peripheral Artery Disease Screening, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening, and free Hypertension Screening. Call 888-814-0466 for more info or to schedule an appointment. Use code: HSCA001. Or visit [LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA](https://llsa.org/social/hsc)

Thursday, Sept. 4, 6:30 p.m., Finance Committee Meeting.

Sunday, Sept. 7, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Shuffle Board Tournament in the Clubroom. A signup sheet is available in the Clubroom. The entry fee is \$10. See Patti Fredlund for details.

Tuesday, Sept. 9, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting. Complimentary buffet meal served in 6 p.m. time frame.

Wednesday, Oct. 15. 8th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament, at the Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm, 3030 Bradshaw Drive, Woodstock. A flyer is posted in the Clubroom with more information. [Click here](#) to see the online version.

Saturday, Nov. 8, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 9th Annual Cruz-In. [Click here to see](#) some of the cars on display last year. [Click here to read](#) about last year's event in the *Alpharetta-Roswell Herald*.

~ ~ ~

**CLUB 201 DANCE -
LEARN MORE**

VETERANS RESOURCES

Visit the [Resource Page](#) at Post 201's website, www.legion201.org for a significant amount of information concerning various resources available for veterans. You'll find a Survivor Assistance Checklist, Benefits for Georgia Veterans, Burial at Sea Information, Veteran's License Plates Information, Emergency Housing Information Guide and many other resources.

Past Issues of the Post's E-newsletter - [Click here](#).

Veterans Crisis Line

Call 988 and Press 1 or Text 838255

Visit www.veteranscrisisline.net

VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387

Post 201 Service Officer Hotline for Vets-at-Risk - 631-720-6022